

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5139**

58th Legislature  
2004 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate March 8, 2004  
YEAS 48 NAYS 0

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**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House March 4, 2004  
YEAS 94 NAYS 1

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**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Approved

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**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Milton H. Doumit, Jr.,  
Secretary of the Senate of the  
State of Washington, do hereby  
certify that the attached is  
**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5139** as  
passed by the Senate and the House  
of Representatives on the dates  
hereon set forth.

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**Secretary**

FILED

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5139**

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AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2004 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      58th Legislature                      2004 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Higher Education (originally sponsored by  
Senator Carlson)

READ FIRST TIME 01/21/04.

1            AN ACT Relating to remedial postsecondary education; and creating  
2 new sections.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that state  
5 education and higher education agencies are working on initiatives to  
6 communicate with parents and students about how high school graduates  
7 should gain and maintain the reading, writing, and mathematics skills  
8 they need to start immediately in college-level work. However, the  
9 legislature finds that insufficient progress has been made in reducing  
10 the proportion of recent high school graduates who must enroll in  
11 remedial or precollege classes at Washington's public colleges and  
12 universities. More than seventeen million dollars in state and tuition  
13 resources is being spent each year to provide these students with  
14 skills they should have gained before graduating from high school. It  
15 is the intent of the legislature that state education and higher  
16 education agencies place a higher priority on their work to address the  
17 issue of remediation and take concrete steps to make measurable  
18 improvements.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.** (1) Within current budgets, the higher  
2 education coordinating board, the office of the superintendent of  
3 public instruction, and the state board for community and technical  
4 colleges shall convene a work group that includes representatives of  
5 the two and four-year institutions of higher education and school  
6 districts to address remediation issues. The work group shall:

7        (a) Discuss standards and expectations for the knowledge and skills  
8 high school graduates need for college-level work and strategies for  
9 communicating those standards to all Washington high schools;

10       (b) Identify the causes of current gaps in knowledge and skills of  
11 recent high school graduates;

12       (c) Identify innovative strategies currently used by school  
13 districts and other initiatives or programs designed to provide  
14 graduates with the knowledge and skills for college-level work; and

15       (d) Develop and initiate actions to address the gaps in knowledge  
16 and skills so that the need for remediation of recent high school  
17 graduates in public higher education institutions is significantly  
18 reduced.

19       (2) The state education and higher education agencies shall jointly  
20 submit a report to the education and higher education committees of the  
21 legislature by December 15, 2004. The report shall summarize the  
22 findings of the work group and describe actions taken by the agencies,  
23 higher education institutions, and school districts to enhance the  
24 knowledge and skills of high school graduates. The report shall also  
25 recommend additional strategies, timelines, and measurable benchmarks  
26 for reducing remediation of recent high school graduates over the next  
27 three years.

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